<u>Amendments to the Specification</u>

In the Specification:

Please amend the Specification, as follows:

Please amend the paragraph that runs from page 6, line 21 to page 7, line 3, as follows:

Although not shown in the Figures, it should be understood that the respective construction of the HBA 26 may be substantially identical to the respective construction of the HBA 28. Thus, in order to avoid unnecessary duplication of description, the construction of the HBA 26 will not be presented in detail herein. However, suffice it state that <u>the HBA</u> ~~HBA~~ 26 may be electrically coupled to, and may be configured to exchange data and commands with the array 30, via a respective S-ATA-based interface (not shown) comprised in the HBA 26; by issuing appropriate commands to the array 30 via this ATA-based interface, the HBA 26 may cause data referenced or comprised in such commands to be stored in or retrieved from the array 30. HBA 26 may comprise a respective I/O processor 25 that may have a respective construction that is substantially similar to that of I/O processor 27. HBA 26 also may comprise a respective network interface (not shown) that may have a respective construction that is substantially similar to that of interface 204 and may be coupled via the link 36 to network 11.

Please amend the paragraph that runs from page 8, line 27 to page 9, line 9, as follows:

Although not shown in the Figures, it should be understood that the respective construction of the HBA 54 may be substantially identical to the respective construction of the HBA 52. Thus, in order to avoid unnecessary duplication of description, the construction of the HBA 54 will not be presented in detail herein. However, suffice it state that <u>the HBA</u> ~~HBA~~ 54 may be electrically coupled to, and may be configured to exchange data and commands with the array 58, via a respective conventional S-ATA-based interface (not shown) comprised in the HBA 54; by issuing appropriate commands to the array 58 via this ATA-based interface, the HBA 54 may cause data referenced or comprised in such commands to be stored in or retrieved from the array 58. HBA 54 may comprise a respective I/O processor 55 that may have a respective construction that is substantially similar to that of I/O processor 53. HBA 54 also may comprise a respective network interface (not shown) that may have a respective construction that is substantially similar to that of interface 504 and may be coupled via the link 38 to network 11.

3